TH NIBELUNG TRAGEDY

10 I HEARD AT THE OPERA ALL IN ONE WEEK.

Four eat Dramas in Five Afternoons, and 1 On Just the Same-The Greatest tra Factory on Earth Is Ours.

Heilch Conried will add to the joys of he fo dramas of this huge cycle, like the have en "dishpershed notooriously" Kaiser for spoiling his levely army. brougtwo or more weeks. Now we are mas airnoon for the little ones. In the eveninthe grown people who will not be too til to sit up till 10:30 will be per-

On Tuday there will be a blessed interramas the series will be performed on Thursdaj and Friday afternoons. On Wednesd, evening "L'Elisir D'Amore" which will gain come forward on Friday night wit"La Favorita." It will indeed be a busyeek at the Opera, for of course the regulaSaturday performances, afternoon and ening, will not be omitted.

demands aleal of devotion to the Wagnerian idea of art. One rushes off after a hasty lungeon to a performance of "Die Il nearly 6 He then emerges from the hrobbing anosphere of a tremendous Irama, withis nerves unstrung after the catended ply of the work upon his emodens. It is of in human nature to endure a stimulated all the time. ply that lass four hours and more. Wagnt never immded that we should have to hr his wors that way.

ama "a stge festival play." The word | "all in." stival" here has a special significance. corporated in the repertories of common garden fera houses. He designed it festival occasions, for special series sorbed by any audience if it were pererformed here in the coming week.

Let not this mild plaint be misunderstood. It is not directed against the presntation of the drama all in one week. That is altogether correct and desirable. "Der Ring des Nibelungen" should never be given in any other way. But on the properly when the last three dramas have o be given on successive days.

Here we are confronted with the necessary consideration of the endurance of singers. The woman who sings Brünni'de on Wednesday cannot impersonate he Valkyr again on Thursday and Friday. The same Siegiried cannot last through the final dramas on two successive days. ilts will surely not be altogether happy.

Mine. Nordica as the final Brunnhilde in , of this old opera. Thus the daughter of Wotan will pass in three days through hree stages, not one of which will have he slightest resemblance to any other. o one could by any stretch of imagination elude himself into the belief that he was oking at the same woman on Wednesday. hursday and Friday.

As for Sieg/ried, he will get several years owth between the drama in which he st appears and that in which he is exte, short and stout, and in "Götterdamrung" by Alois Burgstaller, tall and slender. s will more gloom enshroud that eternal blem, "How long were Siegfried and binhilde together on the hill?"

ese dramas should be presented with su intermissions between them that the sa singers can impersonate the same Brahilde, one Wolan, one Fricka, one Siefed. It must be admitted that withut Sunday performance such a plan is diffit to arrange; but it is not quite imposse. The labors of "Das Rheingold" need t exhaust either Wotan or Fricka. who ist appear again in "Die Walkure." Conseiently when the former work is gien 1 Monday afternoon the latter might be offed on Tuesday. Then Wednesday would be a day of rest and "Siegfried" culd b sing on Thursday and "Göttermmenny" on Saturday.

But n order to arrange this schedule th regular performances in the evenings wild layeto be abandoned and the usual turday mtinée sacrificed to the cycle. weekly performance in Philadelphia, would have to be cut out.

aving mide such a schedule, the next g in orde to carry out Wagner's idea | three grand acts of the tragedy. d be to begin the performances, except of "Rheirgold," at 4 P.M. The first of ur works could begin at 5 o'clock. It or 10 o'clock. The writer of this de- to learn to take more time. ent of THE SUN prefers, when the entr'act the opportunity for a very luncheon, a smoke and much agree-

shape of a cheering supper. a pity we have not a Prinz Regenten of in the Promenade Platz, or you eyes on the stately Maximilianeum of the solid comfort of all those secorium and opening into the foyer. | variably so. dispose of your wraps in comfort can get them in five minutes after ormance. The system is well nigh

entr'actes you can promenade in dors and study the curious people ne from all parts of Europe and gentle shock as if you had unwittingly San Francisco, at the east end of the Wilstumbled across a woman who had forgotten

to dress before coming out. Your wife, if she be an American, will be so much better frocked than any of the make the Figaro's comments on Presi-Europeans in the crowd that the slimwaisted eyeglassed German officers will stare her quite out of countenance. Their t Usual Evening Performances Go- impudence is amusing, for it carries with it an assurance that whatever a soldier does in the happy land of Bavaria is all right and that no common mortal will dare to take offence at it. You may sometimes Thristis week a complete performance of | feel as if you would like to slap one of these | ing us. "Der ng des Nibelungen." Heretofore pretty fellows, but you are sure that if you do he will break in two in the middle doingef the famous Private Mulvaney, and you would incur the displeasure of the

But if you do not feel like walking in the havhe whole thing compressed within corridors you can go out into the large the lins of four days. To-morrow "Das restaurant and pay a mark, or about a theigd" will be heard for the first time quarter, for a lignum vitæ sandwich or a this sebn. It will afford a cheerful Christ- similar sum for a five-cent piece of indigestible German cake. Then you can have beer, beer and beer; and such beer! Of course it is not remarkable in Munich, mitted observe the legendary tragedy of where in the Hofbrauhaus you can drink Hansend Gretel." Thus will the merry beer which is the nectar of Gambrinus, but eletidae properly observed in the Opera it is miles beyond any beer you can get in this village.

Or you can go out into the garden and mission. On Wednesday afternoon "Die drink your beer there and smoke your Walkurevill be given, and the other two cigar. It is all so pleasant, so sociable, so gemuthlich, as the Germans say, and you meet so many acquaintances and see so many artistic celebrities; and there are will be fig by the Italian contingent, always the officers to keep you from becoming too proud and to remind you that you are permitted to walk about and to breathe the same air with beings of a higher

After the performance you are back in It must | confessed that listening to the | the centre of the city in ten minutes and Ring dram, as one has to listen to them there are restaurants of all degrees, at in New YG, is something of a task. It which you make still the cravings of your appetite and slake your thirst with amber Löwenbrau. That is the way to enjoy Wagner. You take him en fête, as he Valkure" brinning at 1:30 o'clock, and is intended you to; you absorb him and the Asseted wi Wagner's gods and mortals German atmosphere and the wine of the country simultaneously. You rise to the occasion. You find that a drama in four plays is none too long. You become satuontinued shin of attention and the long | rated with the spirit of the thing, and you never for an instant feel tired. You are

But when you have to sit for four unbroken hours for three days in succession you will find that you have performed The title pge of the first score informs | an athletic feat in listening which will at that the riter called this cumbersome the end leave you, as the athletes say,

Is not this herculean effort to grasp such agner never dreamed of having this work | creations at one tackle the real reason why so many persons shrink from them in fear? Wagner is not difficult to understand. He deals in elemental passions, in the fundaerforminces, when it could be given | mental thoughts and feelings of humanity. tly in accordance with his plans, which | The worldwide success of his dramas is duded a comfortable schedule for the entirely due to this fact. George Bernard die. Wagner knew perhaps better than Shaw's intellectual subtleties will excite by one else that his drama could not be the interest of active minds for some time, but they will not last. They will be sooner primed in the manner in which it is to be or later relegated to the dust of library shelves, for they fail to make the appeal to the fundamental human nature.

Shakespeare's "Hamlet" and "Romeo and Juliet," on the other hand, touch the wellsprings of the soul; they tap the fountain head of feeling. Their intellectual nobility adds to their artistic value and intensifies other hand it is impossible to present it their basic strength, but all the imagery of the blank verse and all the skill in dramatic construction and character development shown by the master dramatist would not have given these dramas their potency if the human element in them had been weak or falsely conceived.

Wagner, too, has sounded the human note with no uncertain hand. It is not the mystic atmosphere of "The Flying He may undertake to do so, but the re- Dutchman" that gives it attraction for the public. It is the exhibition of womanhood As it stands we are to have Miss Walker | sacrificing itself for the sake of love and as Brunnhilds in "Die Walkure," Miss Weed | the embodiment of the emotions of this as the same character in "Siegfried" and story in eloquent music. This is the secret

It is not the superficial glories of Venusberg or the court of Hermann of Thuringia, nor yet the mellifluous strains of the meditative Wolfram that make "Tannhäuser" popular. It is the delineation of the strife of good and evil for possession of the soul of Tannhauser and the musical setting forth of the emotions of the hero Elisabeth and Wolfram, that touch the public.

When we reach the Nibelung tragedy guished by Hagen's spear, for in "Sieg-ed" he will be impersonated by Heinrich The elements of the dramatic action are we come upon a story of much complexity. manifold, but the true plot is simple. Its ramifications are like to distract him who is compelled to give it hasty consideration. It is not at all strange that many are led astray from the true story of a god's sin and its consequences and induced to fancy that the loves of Siegmund and Sieglinde and of Siegfried and Brunnhilde are the cheters throughout. There should be one matters really at stake. These are but episodes in the true drama, magnificent episodes, to be sure, but not the real issues. Wotan is the hemo of the play, and the tragedy lies in the doom of the Walhalla coterie for sin.

In order that any person who has not spent much time in preparatory study of the books of these dramas shall understand them as he watches their development, he must have time to reflect upon them. In an ordinary theatrical play of four or five acts there are intermissions, during which the auditor may gather himself together and connect the threads of the story. In "Der Ring des Nibelungen" we have a drama which consists of four plays, three of which are in three acts each. The grand plan of the work requires us to regard "Das Rheingold" as a prologue, while the three other works are in reality the

It is too much to ask of us that we shall have no more than a night's intermission between two acts such as any two of these. wild be over at 7:50 o'clock and the audi- We should have a whole day. Would you would be eady for a comfortable din- ask a man to ride from New York to Chi-In the case of the other three dramas cago and then pause twenty minutes for simply hitch their horses to a big team and, armed with small hatchets, drive out into give ample time for dinner, as was for Omaha? We are certainly in a hurry after the first act of "Parsifal," and in this country, but if we are to acquire one would be ready to go home about a true artistic atmosphere we shall have

Across the water they will get dim and as are thus performed, to make the twisted ideas about this extraordinary operatic week of ours. No one in Europe knows much about America anyhow. They onversation, postponing the real meal | don't try to. They all appear to be afraid er the performance and then taking that if they learn facts they will find out something to our credit.

Of course they make public speeches Ther here! You can get there by trolley about our greatness and our desirability een minutes from the Hotel Bayer- in the front row of world Powers, but they are careful to use only glittering generalie out in an open carriage and feast ties. In private life they speak of us with unconcealed contempt. They know nothing about us. All their information is misinformation. This is largely the case coat and hat rooms under the rear of in England. On the Continent it is in-

The American correspondents of French and German newspapers never tell the exact truth about anything in this country If they did they would be discharged. The case of the Paris Figaro not knowing that a Thanksgiving proclamation was issued every year and applauding President Rooseto attend the festival. Your wife | velt's courage in issuing one, is a mere drop food for thought in the reform in the bucket. The Paris Figure probably orn by many of the German women. | thinks that the White House is in New York, Theybk like wrappers, and when you and that Federal laws are framed by the one in the fover you have ad President's private secretary, who lives in

liamsburg Bridge. In their misrepresentations of American musical doings the German newspapers dential manifestoes look like Gospel truth. Most of these misrepresentations are made by correspond to who live here and know the facts, but are obliged to feed the German papers on what they like. They are greatly aided and abetted by the virtuos and singers who go home laden with our dollars and show their gratitude by malign-

So we may expect to read in some of the European papers that Wagner's "Der Ring des Nibelungen" was given three times in one week at the Metropolitan Opera House, performances taking place twice a day and the casts being entirely changed in each act. We shall read of people eating luncheons from baskets held in their laps while Siegfried was forging his sword and of women arriving at the opera house with camp outfits, determined not to go home till the whole orgy was over.

Orgy-that's the word. See if it does not come back at us from self-satisfied Europe, where they still think that New York is W. J. HENDERSON. east of Boston.

NOTES OF MUSIC EVENTS.

At the Russian Symphony Society's concerts of Saturday night and Sunday afternoon Maud Powell will play a new violin concerto by Arensky. Other features will be Jan Sibellus's new tone poem. 'Finland," and the whole third act of Rimsky. Korsakov's opera, "Christmas Eve."

Edwin Grasse, violinist, will give his second ecital at Mendelssohn Hall on Thursday afternoon. His own suite in E minor for plane and visits will be heard.

Clayton Johns will give a recital of his own music at Mendelssohn Hall on January 9 at 3 P. M.

David Bispham will give the first of his three song recitais at Mendelssohn Hall on Tuesday evening. This will probably be Mr. Bispham's last season on the concert stage

The first concert of chamber music of the new rear will be that by the Boston Symphony Quartet n Mendelssohn Hall on Tuesday evening, January The quartet (Prof. Willy Hess and Messrs. Roth, Ferir and Warnke) will be assisted by Sigismond Stojowski, planist, of the Institute of Musical Art, and by Messrs, Max Zach, viola, and Josef Keller, 'cello, of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

The next pair of Boston Symphony concerts will be given in Carnegie Hall on Thursday evening, January 11, and Saturday afternoon, January 13, On Thursday evening the solo artist will be Mr. Alfred Reisenauer and on Saturday afternoon Prof. Willy Hess.

The first of Victor Beigel's recitals will be given on Wednesday evening, January 17, in place of the 10th, as announced in this paper last week. The programme for this concert will consist entirely classical compositions dating from the fifteenth

Miss Maud Powell, the renowned violiniste, has augmented orchestra of 100 pteces at Carnegie Hall, Sunday, December 31. Her selections will be appropriate to the occasion.

Mme. Emma Calvé will resume her concert tour in Chicago on New Year's night. Her managers, Cort & Kronberg, have just arranged for a second appearance of the prima donna at Carnegie Hall. She will be heard here at a mating on February 22 (Washington's Birthday), presenting a programme entirely different from the one she gave before. In the meantime Calvé will journey to the Coast and will sing in all the principal cities of the West, Northwest and South.

Kubelik will be heard in recital at Carnegie Hall this afternoon at 3 o'clock. This will be the last appearance save one of the sensationial Bohemian violinist before he starts on his long transcontinental tour. His final concert in this city will be on New Year's night. Eubelik's programme to-day is extremely popular in character and is of a kind to reveal the best features of his technical and mu-

WITCH HAZEL SEASON.

How the Brush Is Collected and Distilled in Connecticut Valley.

county at this time of the year. They are laden with brush, cut from a species of the are put into a still, and the resulting product

is witch hazel extract.

The witch hazel industry dates back about thirty-five years. In the early '70s a young man from Essex went to New York with a for the courses of instruction, it is answered that he gradually has made himself "the few barrels of witch hazel. He knew that he had a good thing, and he had the courage of his convictions. He placed one barrel "Some member of the Board of Education, of his product with every wholesale druggist a business man say, who is serving as best who would take one. He then hired salesto go out on the streets and avenues and sell the witch hazel in small lots turntaken his extract.

There are many kinds of witch hazel, for this product is rather remarkable in that no standard except that given by its manufacturer. It is not subject to a chemical test, and the purchaser must depend for its worth upon the good faith of its distiller. In making alcohol, for instance, a distiller obtains but four gallons of proof spirit from a bushel of corn, though he keeps his still working until the crack of doom.

In the distillation of witch hazel, however, a distiller can take out twenty gallons, forty, or even twenty barrels from a ton of brush at one operation. He can keep on running the extract until he gets tired it is all witch hazel, but, as a matter of fact, the first gallon is the strongest, the second is a little weaker, and so on until the in runnings is but temporary, and there is

Others there are who, instead of using | tendentsthe green twigs, distill from the dried bark, because it is so much cheaper and can be made any time in the year. But the prodso obtained has not the fine, pungent odor obtained from young twigs. Some also use a larger proportion of water than is called for by the amount of the material, and the resulting product is an aqueous distillation with but slight traces of witch hazel's char-

The witch hazel season does not open until after all their crops have been harvested. There is at such a time little for the farmers to do, and if it were not for this industry it might go hard with some of them. They the woods. The witch hazel grows in hilly and rough places and it is usually difficult to get to the spot with a heavy team

On arriving at a good growth of the bush all hands set to work cutting the brush off near the roots and piling it into the teams, There is no mistaking it, for it has a charac-When a load is obtained it is driven to the nearest cutting station, where it is cut, then macerated and put into the still. The price paid for the brush is about \$4.50 to \$5 a ton.

The brush is very plentiful and easily cut,

but it is sometimes hard to reach, and the cutting stations are often distant, so that the farmers cannot dispose of large quantities in a day. There is, therefore, not very much money in it for them, but it has its advan-tages, for it keeps them and their stock busy time of the year when there is little else to be done.

Hounds Discovered Fox's Trick.

From the London Daily Telegraph In the stone wall countries of Ireland foxes sometimes resort to the stratagem of running along the top of the walls for a sonsiderable distance, throwing hounds off the scent. There was an incident of this kind with the Waterford Hounds after their meet at Carrick-on-Suir. A fex jumped on to the top of a on-suir. A fox jumped on to the top of a wall at Corbally, but Mr. Pollok was equal to the emergency and held his hounds along by the side. Suddenly one of the pack jumped on to the wall, and running along the top carried the scent unerringly for a mile and a half. Finding his tactics of no avail, the fox took to terrafirms, but hounds were now close on his brush and bowled him over.

FADS IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

FAULTS SOME MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ARE FINDING.

They Hope That Next Year the Mayor's Plea for the Three R's May Meet Approval -"Raffla" and "Topography of New Yopk" Among the Criticised Studies.

A new Commissioner of Education is to be appointed on or before January 1. When that appointment is made it is expected that the Board of Education, as then constituted, will be found attached to Mayor McClellan's theory about public school studies rather than to Supt. Maxwell's. It will be recalled that the Mayor, in his speech before the National Educational Association last summer, said:

I do not believe that any one can be educated who has not at least a smattering of the three R's. It may possibly serve some mysteriously useful purpose to teach twelveyear-old boys who cannot read the simplest English to sew buttons on shirts or to drill girls of the same age to whom the rule of three is unknown in the theory (but not in the practice) of music and cooking. But the Ignorant outsider who is excluded from the Parnas us of "educational circles" may be rinitted to wonder at the wherefore of it all. It is anything but flattering that the products of our great public schools seldom succeed at either West Point or Annapolis.

With a board answering to that idea, some present members hope to accomplish much toward modifying what they call the Maxwell fad system.

One of the members was asked: "Has nothing been done after the agitation last spring to lop off the fads and

whimsies?" "Very little except to promise. Mr. Maxwell's last bulletin of studies shows that sewing begins in the third year and is not postponed until the fourth, as critics of the system advocated. History was advised for the fourth year, but Mr. Maxwell puts it off until the sixth year-when the child is virtually within a year of ending its compulsory school period. Yet, metallurgy is prescribed in grades when pupils are 8 years old. When they are 6, 7 and 8 years of age they are required to take extraordinary subjects, such as, say, the circulation of blood in a tadpole's tail.

"Topography of New York, which you might say, means learning where the fire hydrants are situated, is taken in the fourth year. This will be valuable when the boys grow up to be firemen, if they don't forget after ten years time. Tots of 6 are set at freehand drawing. Boys are still taught raffia. Do you know what raffia is? Put Mme. Gadski's song recital will take place at the question to grownup New Yorkers, will you, by way of examination on what they know about the details of how their been engaged as soloist for the "Watch Night" elementary schools are conducted? Well, concert to be given by Victor Herbert and his raffia for boys I may describe as the braiding of straw for the bonnets of their sisters' dolls. It's a great thing. Mr. Maxwell, soaring in the high reason of his poetic fancies, thus undertakes the training of the eye and hand, and preparing the future citizen for his part in life.

"English? No-no change has been made in the study of English. No, no change in the study of mathematics either. These are still, as I look at it, subordinated in time given, as when Grout reported that out of 12,000 minutes only 5,975, or less than one-half, are allotted to English, penmanship, geography, history and arithmetic.

"THE SUN lately alluded to the importance of having public school teachers whose English is pure. Swarms of children enter our schools without any real knowledge of the language. Home cultivation for the majority is lacking-the home language is often some other language than English. With the elementary schooling what it is, what wonder if native bree

Middletown correspondence Hartford Courant.
Big carts, heavily loaded with brush, may be seen slowly moving along the country roads in most of the towns in lower Middleser. and a little less raffia and more English, then the child of foreign parents who goes through the schools and mak ates from a college to become a tla her better fitted to keep the well of English

To the suggestion that the City Superde thing" in the school system.

he may, for no salary, objects to a procedure or an action which has been taken. Up-springs Maxwell, ready, plausible, re-sourceful, whips open a book and makes out a case which the business man, not having the contents and construction of the Charter and by-laws at his tongue's and is unable to unset on the super of the the Charter and by-laws at his tongers, end, is unable to upset on the spur of the moment. In many ways Mr. Maxwell has gathered powers to himself by default, by lack of time or inclination on the part of

by lack of time or inclination on the part of board members to scrap with him.

"He has the wiles of a politician—he would have made a clever politician—and is expert at wire pulling. His purpose is to prevail, and he will take any means to carry his point, even if it's absurd. Why, he refused to accept the decision of the Supreme Court in the matter of issuing licenses and wanted the board to appeal to the Court of Appeals, when it was plain to the Court of Appeals, when it was plain to everybody that there wasn't a word to say in defence of withholding the licenses after his own circular to the candidates had been put in evidence. His idea of adminis-tration is strict absolutism." "Still, the law says the board of superin-

"Oh, the law! The Charter as it stands lows the Board of Education nothing but a veto power on the city superintendent' nominations for examiners and for district superintendents. That is, we are merely the Senate, which can confirm or reject, while he is the chief executive over all

who sends in the names. His twenty-six or twenty-seven district superintendents at \$5,000 a year, each with a secretary at \$600, and his associate superintendents, who ought to be done away with, each with a salary of \$5,500, and a secretary besides, constitute a political machine.
"Maxwell nominates; we must either appoint or ask for another nomination. He is required to nominate from the eligible list

one of the first three names. Now, suppose the first two names are of persons he, for some private or political reason, does not want. He selects the third. Next time he want. He selects the third. Next time he selects the third again, and so on down, the unfortunate first two whiting and waiting. We could reject, but he could go down the list of a hundred names, and the first two eligibles would not be relieved by our rejections till only those two remained."

"Then there is a frightful waste of money of many remained."

supervision. Damrosch, as musical ctor, has not been replaced this year; otherwise the system is as it was, with some 256 directors and teachers for manual training, shop work, cooking, sewing, music and physical culture, maintained at a cost of nearly \$350,000 yearly. With the exception of cooking every regular teacher is capable of teaching these branches. Physical culture teachers are an imposition. They are mere boys and girls without any academic or pedagogic training. They begin on \$1,200 a year, whereas the regular class teacher who has spent four r five years in a training college and must then pass Maxwell's peculiar examination must begin on \$600 (women) or \$900 (men). The majority of these specials are unable to give a lesson without the aid of a book. Sometimes they come along and merely give instructions to the competent class

into law declares that in the fifth, sixth and seventh years of the present schooling "you may pick out at random any five pupils and find that they cannot subtract 9 from 63, 6 from 74 or 8 from 97." A chairman of a local school board asserts that business men have come to her with letters from applicants for work, boys and girls of this kind.

past the 14 year school age, which were shockingly ill spelled and miserably written. "Youngsters are coming out from the present compulsory schooling utterly unqualified to do the things expected of boys and girls starting in offices and stores," he added:

A man dwelling in East Twenty-fourth street complains to one who has interested himself in reform that while there are 60,000 children kept out of the first grade schools the time of the rest is taken up with raffia and other fancies so that when at 14 they have to go out to earn a living they do not even know English. Writes another: "Mr. Maxwell has had no experience as a teacher but is only a theorist in educa-tional work. Many have dared to hint that his greatest solicitation is not for the mental benefit of the children under his

One commissioner puts it thus: "The school life of the average child is not more than seven years. These seven years should be devoted to giving the child a foundation that will be of service during life—the life they will have to lead. We have full data showing that poor men's children go out into the world at 14 miserably equipped. Reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, some grammar and some geography, with a knowledge of the salient points of history—every child is entitled to hese. This education is now denied to these. This education is now defined to children too poor to go to private schools. The curriculum should be so arranged that these essentials are taught to the exclusion of every nonessential." As the time of the child lengthens this commissioner suggests in direct ratio to the ability of its parents to give higher opportunities the course may be expanded. The system that is over-loaded with fads and fancies, he declares, is "turning out a host, of mental cripples only half armed to meet the world."

ELKS IN CIRCLE DANCE. Remarkable Exercise in Which Bands of - the Animals Take Part.

Ernest Thompson Seton in Scribner's Magazine, But the grand curious amusement of the elk, one which many hunters have witnessed, may be called their circle dance. Mr. H. W. Skinner of Chicago sends me his observations on this performance:

"About 4 o'clock one afternoon late in August, 1800, I was riding northeast up a small stream flowing into one of the tributaries of the Green River, near its source in northwestern Wyoming. The intense was only relieved by an occasional faint breath of breeze from the north. My attention was attracted by a column of fine dark brown dust rising ahead of me and on the opposite side of the creek (I was on the "The column of dust looked almost as if

caused by a whirlwind. On reaching a point as close to it as I could get without crossing the creek-I was perhaps one hundred yards from it-I found that it was caused by a band of elk numbering from twelve to twenty who seemed to be trotting quite rapidly with occasional awkward galloping plunges in a circle perhaps thirty diameter. They were going in the same diction as the hands of a watch in the of a little belt of second-growth timber mainly, I think, quaking asp.

They were moving, not with heads up but with noses only a foot or two from the ground. My impression is that they were which occasional light puffs of wind blew almost toward me, I could not see very clearly. It seemed to me that they were running about as "milling" cattle do, except that I never knew of cattle to "mill" in such a small bunch. have related this incident several times to hunters and trappers, who could offer no explanation of it. There were large numbers of elk in that country at the time in bands of various sizes."

This remarkable exercise has no obvious relation to the sexual instinct or to hygiene, and marks several important steps in the evolution of amusement. If to it we could add a little music we should have the essentials of social dancing.

COLLECTS CORNERSTONE DATA. Odd Occupation of an Illinois Deputy Shertif.

From the Chicago Daily News. One of the oddest occupations followed in this age is that of the professional collector of data for cornerstone boxes. Probably Bloomington is the only town in America that is able to boast of such an expert, to whose mind and hands the packing of all | rep the boxes that are buried in the town is

turned over. Livingston building and several park structdata for three copper boxes that will be The boxes and their contents will weigh

Mr. Stevenson has some queer ideas about what kind of stuff should go into a corner-stone box. The daily and weekly papers are always included, but there is a great variety of other things. He collects a number of trade catalogues that show what the people of this age eat and wear, how they have their houses and offices furnished, and automobile. One hundred years or less hence, should a cyclone come along and lift the buildings of the town from their foundations, the people of that time will have a great time in studying over the odd things

that they will dig out of the foundations.

Not long since the town suffered a great loss of business houses by a devastati Some of the foundations of buildings that had | kings. been built a long time ago yielded up some valuable historical facts that kept the town interested for weeks afterward. The resi dents became thoroughly enthused on the subject of cornerstone boxes and in a structure had a copper box filled with historical material stowed away in the ma- est ranchers of the Deer Lodge Valley,

PUMPS IN COLORED LEATHER, used to visit the swamps east of Anaconda. New Button Shoes for Men and Women valley now, and they are so tame that I really -Heavy Boots.

From the Shoe Retailer. Pumps in welts and turns are much seen. They come in both kinds of leathers, and in patent stock make a very dressy shoe for evening wear. Some are shown in men's

ber of the stores catering to fashionable custom are showing them in colored suede kid stock, in such shades as green, blue, red, pearl gray, tan and white for women at indoor dress functions. Their great popularity during the past season has led the dealers to look for some call for them during the fall and winter for house wear.

Button shoes for both men and women are

much seen in the fall displays, in both the dull and shiny leathers. Those made of the meadow, and I followed them carefully for latter stock usually have the uppers of a dull finished leather, with buttons of the same range without disturbing the deer and picked bind to match. The "Pidgin" last is the name of the latest

freak in men's shoes, and is inclined to be rather an extreme cut. The inside edge is cut almost straight, while the outside edge comes to a stop with a practically square cut-off, which tends to give it a 'pigeon toe" appearance, from which its name is tak The soles are heavy and quite extended, winter use, since extension soles accumulate so much dirt and dampness.

Goodyear welts in women's lines are much

seen, indicating that the dealers look for continued call for heavy boots for out door wear. These are mostly cut along the lines of mannish lasts and are designed to be worn without rubbers, a thing which women duction of Goodyear welts in women's lines

some of them in patent leather, but as they are first of all designed to provide comfort for tender feet, the more porous leathers are the best sellers to those who can wear-a shoe

HAIR CUT ON A BRIDGE. Evidence That Saved a Man Accused of

Murder. From the London Leader.
Literally speaking, the life of Hugh Crig-

gan of Inniscreenery, charged yesterday at Belfast Assizes with the murder of a farmer named John Gardiner, hung upon a thread. The police based their case upon a human hair, a thread and a whiskey bottle. The two men had attended a sports meeting at Lisnaskea and were supposed to have started together for home. Gardiner was never again seen alive, but there was evidence of a struggle having taken place at

would have passed. At this spot Gardiner's broken umbrella was picked up the following day, and his dead body, with a number of wounds, was recovered from the river 1,123 yards below the bridge.

Ballynadarragh Bridge, over which they

The police investigations succeeded in discovering a hair on the parapet of the bridge, which, from its appearance, was stated to have been from the mustache of the victim. They also found a thread near the hair, and this, it was alleged by the Crown, was from the tab of the cost which the prisoner was wearing. An important link in the chain of gircum-

stantial evidence was a black whiskey bottle. This, it was stated, was sold to Cardiner at Lisnaskea during the day preceding the night on which he met his death, and it was not seen again until produced and opened by the accused at a time subsequent to that at which the murder was stated to have taken place.

The medical evidence showed that Gardiner was not dead when he was thrown Into the river.
Only one of the injuries on his body was

proved to be a wound made before death, which might have been inflicted by a blow from a full bottle, but could not have been caused by an empty one. Prof. Barklie, analyist, stated that on the

trousers, shirt front and the tie of the prisoner he discovered blood stains, which, however, he could not determine to be human. For the defence, evidence was produced prove that rowdy scenes had occurred at Ballynadarragh Bridge at a time after the appearance of Criggan at the house of a friend, where he brought out the whiskey

bottle. About this time cries of distress were heard by those there, coming from the direction of the bridge. So far as the thread was concerned it was shown that it was from a coat similar to those worn in this part of the country by numerous people.

In reference to the hair found-four days after the murder-a number of witnesses declared that the inhabitants, instead of going to a barber shop, obliged each other by cutting one another's hair at the bridge. Only the day before the tragedy the deceased cut the hair of a neighbor at this spot. After three-quarters of an hour's deliberations the jury found the prisoner not guilty

FRANKLIN IN FRANCE.

Given Many Heners and Was the Rage of the Court. John Hay in Century Magazine.

Franklin became the fashion of the season. For the court itself dabbled a little in liberal ideas. So powerful was the vast impulse of free thought that then influenced the mind of France-that susceptible French min4 that always answers like the wind harp to the breath of every true human aspiration—that even the highest classes had caught the infection of liberalism. They handled the mentous words Liberty and Human Rights in their dainty way, as if they were only a new game for their amusement, not knowing what was to them the terrible import of those words. It became very much the thing at court to rave about Franklin. The young and lovely queen, Marie Antoinette, was most winning and gracious toward him. The languid courtiers crammed natural science to talk with him. The small wits The small wits who knew a little Greek called him Solon and Aristides and Phocion.

It is sad to think of the utter unconsciousness of these amiable aristocrats. They never dreamed that this man Franklin was a portent and a prophet of ruin to them. He would ripen in an awful harvest of whirlwinds. Later, when the whirlwinds had hardly got beyond the frisky stage of their the man who likes to engage in this kind of development, the Queen lamented bitterly work, and he seems to have all he can do, Within a short time he has packed boxes or the new county court house, public library, was wisely shaken over these indiscretions while they lasted. Joseph II., Emperor of Austria, brother to the Queen, who was in Paris on his travels, and who was as much of a democrat himself as an emperor can be, when his sister rebuked his coolness on the American question, replied "Madam, the trade I live by is that of a royalist."

Court incense could not turn the philosophic head any more than the loud acclaim of the people. When Franklin found himself the honored guest of royalty, his thoughts reverted to those faraway days of boyhood. when his father used to quote to him, in the old candle shop at Boston, the words of the wise man, "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings." The old sage heard the echo of that paternal voice resounding over half a century, and a new and strange light, as of prophecy fulfilled, illumined the immortal words. Surely, no man ever lived more diligent in his business Surely no man ever stood, with more of the innate dignity of upright manhood, before

DEER CLAIMED BY TWO HUNTERS. Danger From Bears in the Mountain Brush.

"Deer are coming back to the old ground again," said Chris Jergensen, one of the old-"People who lived in my section of the valley will remember the great droves of deer that

"There are a few white tail deer in the believe they know all about the State game Many times I have taken my rifle and tramped through the swamps on the lookout for deer and closely watching all openings in the brush. In tracking deer through the evening wear. Some are shown in men's thick brush it was not uncommon to run lines for use on full dress occasions and for across fresh bear tracks, and when I did it dancing purposes.

In addition to these in black stock, a num
I had an experience with a big cinnamon bear that I shall not soon forget. panion I was hunting deer, and we came upon lue, red. a large she cinnamon bear, and my com-n's wear panion was torn almost to fragments.

"The bear jumped from behind a brush, and almost before I knew what was going on my companion was dead and I had killed the bear. By a lucky chance, my bullet had found

a fatal spot.
"I ran across a fine band of deer in my a long time. I managed to get within easy ground dead. Just then another shot rang out, and before I could get to my deer another man, living in a cabin close by, appeared with a knife and cut the animal's throat It appears that he had shot at the band and belleved it was his shot that brought down the venison. We had a very heated argument about it, and perhaps fortunately for both of us a neighbor happened along and suggested that we toss up a coin to decide the question of ownership. I won out and proudly carried my venison home."

Buckwheat to Remove Grease Spots.

From the Boston Post. The following recipe for removing grease pots will never fail and will not injure the most delicate fabric and will remove from a arpet a pint of oil without leaving a trace

REAL RULERS OF THE POLES

A CENTRAL COMMITTEE WHICH WORKS HERE AND ABROAD.

Made Up of Delegates From All Over the World-Its Money Used Chiefly in a Campaign of Education-league in This Country Now Numbers 45.00

All over the world to-day Poles are watching the present course of events in Russia and asking one another "Is there hope?" They do not say of what. That is not necessary. To Poles the phrase has but one meaning-the independence of their country. But their leaders, the secret central committee of the Polish League, are playing a waiting game.

This secret central committee is really a wonderful organization-a government within a government. It consists of the ablest men in the national league, a vast society that numbers nearly every adult male Pole, and many women as well. The league has branches in every place where there are enough Poles to form a club of some sort or other. No matter whether the club be social, literary, dramatic, political or athletic, it is first of all patriotic.

There is a secret committee at the head of the various organizations in every country where the Poles have extensive interests. There is one here in New York, which governs the 45,000 members in America. There is another in London; and still others in Paris, Berlin and even St. Petersburg and Warsaw.

From these sub-committees delegates are chosen for the highest committee of all, the central committee, whose word is law. These delegates are usually men of considerable wealth, all of it pledged to the cause, and without exception of high personal integrity. This is vital; because they have undisputed control of the funds of the league and are answerable to no one for their expenditures.

The meeting place and headquarters of the central committee are both secret, but the Poles boast that they can notify every member of the league in Russian Poland in less than a day of any move that may be contemplated.

The league has nothing to do with Terrorist proclamations, street rioting and bomb throwing. Such demonstrations are steadily frowned on by the central committee.

The campaign that is being prosecuted now is primarily an educational one. Instead of spending its funds for rapid fire guns and rifles the committee buys fext books and scatters free newspapers. These papers are printed all over Poland, but especially in Warsaw. One of the best known and widely circulated is called Power. For years it has made its appearance regularly from a secret pressroom and for years the Russian agents have tried to lay their hands on its editors. It is easy enough for them to procure copies of the sheet, for they are given away on the streets, but the copies themselves contain no names or addresses. Besides the pamphlets published in Rus,

sian Poland, there are others issued jud across the border in the Austrian and Geracross the border in the Austrian and German parts of the ancient kingdom. Austria and Germany both allow freedom of the press, so the printing and publishing can go on openly, and the only trouble for the patriots is in getting their papers across the border. Here, again, the secret machinery of the vast society is put into operation, and it is very seddom, indeed, that the underground mail fails to reach its destination. Perhaps the best known of these "outland" Polish journals is the Pole, published at Cracow.

"outland" Polish journals is the Pole, published at Cracow.

The central committee does not maintain a secret arsenal in readiness for revolt. That would be too risky, but in lieu of such preparation the committee founded, several years ago, a national reserve fund. Not with standing its short life, the fund already exceeds \$1,000,000 and is growing steadily. It has proved considerable of a white elephant to take care of, however, for several nations hostile to the Polish was incarnate democracy, and they petted him! They never imagined that in showering their good natured homage upon this austere republican they were sowing the wind which attempted to lay forcible hands on it. The money is at present divided among several banking houses in Paris and London.

Nearly all Poles are firmly determined that if they ever become an independent nation they will have a republic on the plan of our own and with a constitution based on ours. All parties—Nationalist, Agrarian, the three Socialistic parties and a couple of others—make this the chief plank in

of others—make this the chief plank in their platforms.

The league in this country has 45,000 members, of whom 1,500 are women. At its last conference, held at Buffalo about a month ago, some \$60,000 was appropriated for different expenses, among them being a statue of Kosciusko, to be erected in Withington and the status of the status Washington and presented to the American people, and the establishment of a higher Polish school in Pennsylvania. Among the activities of the New York branch is a fund for the relief of Polish deser from the Russian army who flee to country.

SECRETS OF MEXICAN INDIANS. They Carefully Conceal Finds of Minerals That They Make.

From the Mexican Herald. "Some two weeks ago a Mexican of the buscon class offered to sell me a considerable quantity of placer gold, which he claimed he had found within 100 kilometres of Tepisco. but he refused to tell where he had got it, said T. G. Gibson of Tepisco, Sonora. "Among this gold was one nugget as large as an ordinary sized marble. A friend of mine bought this gold for \$300, and a day or two later sold it for \$565.

"It is no uncommon thing to find the bus-

cones of that part of the country with gold for sale. This nugget"—here he exhibited a piece of smoothly worn wash gold of irregular shape, and about half an inch long by a little over a quarter of an inch wide, with a piece of white quartz running crosswise through it-"I bought from a buscon some three years ago in Tepisco. He had several other pieces of fine gold ore, but as I was not interested in mines, I bought this simply for the purpose

of making a pin out of it. "About eight months ago a buscon brought into Tepisco a mule load of silver ore, which he sold for \$260 to one of the local ore buyers, All efforts to induce him to reveal the place where he obtained the ore proved of no avail When he found he was watched by spies of mining men he went back to work upon little corn ranch that he had in the neighborhood, and there he stayed until those watch ing him got tired. About two months ago he suddenly disappeared, and had not again been seen there at the time of my departure two weeks ago. It is my opinion that he is again on the hunt for the mine from which he got the ore. Or, if he knows where it is, he is taking ore out of it on the quiet; for he sold out all his corn and realized on his other crops

at a sacrifice efore he left. "It may be that he is taking out denounce ment papers. But this I doubt, as an Indian in that country rarely does that, for it means the payment of taxes, and incidentally the revealing of the place where the mine is situated. The Indian about there has been so

ated. The Indian about there has been so badly treated and cheated that he is afraid of every one, and suspicious of even the mining authorities.

"The silver ore which this Indian brought into the town was an oxide almost jet black, running like a great seam through a wide vein of hard lime formation. One of the pieces of ore brought in by the Indian assayed \$1,800 to the ton in silver and \$1,500 to the ton gold. Very little of it ran much less. The man who made the assay has tried every means in his power to induce the Indian to tell him where the hidden mine is. But the best he could get out of him was that it is in the north, at a considerable distance from Tepisco, and that the whole region, which is on the borders of the hot lands, is seamed with veins of silver ore.

behind:
Ruo as much dry buckwheat flour upon the oil or grease spot as it will take, surrounding and covering it entirely; let it remain a few days, then brush off. A second application is seldom needed.

On the borders of the hot lands, is seamed with veins of silver ore.

"Many buscones have been seen on the hunt for this hidden mine ever since the indian crought in the famous ore some months ago."